Involvement of an RBI Employee in Circulation of Fake Currency Notes

4649. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that involvement of an employee of the RBI in ISI's fake currency note circulation has come to light recently;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Loss to Co-operative Banks in NE Region

4650. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Co-operative Banks in the North-East region are suffering from heavy loss due to introduction of Non-performing social classification;

(b) if so, whether normal credit flow to the rural people is being hampered; and

(c) whether Government would consider sanctioning one time grant for cleansing Balance Sheets of the Co-operative Banks of the NE region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that as a result of the introduction of prudential norms there has not been any adverse effect on the financial position of banks. The banks in the North-Eastern region have been suffering mainly on account of extremely poor recovery of dues which affects recycling of fund as well as flow of credit adversely.

(c) The problems of all Co-operative Banks, including those of NE Region, are being studied by a Task Force constituted for the purpose. Government will take a decision in the matter only after

Report of the Task Force is available.

Issuance of PAN and PAN Card

4651. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received in Delhi, for Permanent Account Number (PAN) during the financial year 1997-98 and 1998-99 circle-wise;

(b) the number of cases in which PAN has been issued with PAN and without PAN Card, seperately;

(c) the reasons for delay where PAN/PAN Card has not been issued so far; and

(d) by when Government propose to issue the remaining PAN and PAN Cards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) Applications for allotment of PAN received during the financial years 1997-98 and 1998-99 in Delhi region are respectively 147,403 and 560,589 in number. No Circle-wise break up of such applications is available.

(b) As on 31.3.2000, Permanent Account Number has been allotted to 11,57,724 applicants in Delhi and 10,03,406 PAN Cards have been issued.

(c) The delay in the allotment of PAN Number/PAN Card is mainly due to incomplete information given in the application forms submitted by the applicants. This necessitates issue of deficiency letters. In all such cases, further action can be taken by the Department only after deficiencies are removed by the tax payers. Receipt of applications for allotment of PAN is also an on-going process.

(d) The work of allotment of Permanent Account Numbers is in full swing and all out efforts are being made for expeditious allotment of PAN to the applicants. Wide publicity is also being given on the subject by the Department requesting the applicants to reply to the deficiency letters sent to them by the Department.